



Local Govt. Comm.  
Bill No. 5  
2-20-07  
JB 339  
Jefferson County Attorney's Office

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Local Government Committee (Senate)  
Montana Legislature  
Helena, MT 59634

Re: Support For Senate Bill 339

Dear Chairman and fellow Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support for Senate Bill 339.

- Jefferson County has its own Growth Policy, Subdivision Regulations and citizen initiated North Jefferson County Zoning Commission to regulate growth in north Jefferson County, protect industry and also maintain Jefferson County's rural way of life.
- The City of Helena intends to cross county lines and consider annexing property from within Jefferson County. This would usurp the County's ability to regulate subdivisions, zone property, and maintain a rural setting for its landowners in the northern part of the county. The City could establish its own zoning, subdivision regulations, and create high density growth.
- It is apparent that the Legislature has not considered this unique situation in past annexation laws.
- This bill is designed to simply protect county zoning, growth policy and subdivision regulations when a city wishes to annex property across county lines. This bill does not prevent annexation, but only requires county approval and only in situations where a city is established across county lines.

Please support Senate Bill 339.

Sincerely,

Mathew J. Johnson

Jefferson County Attorney

